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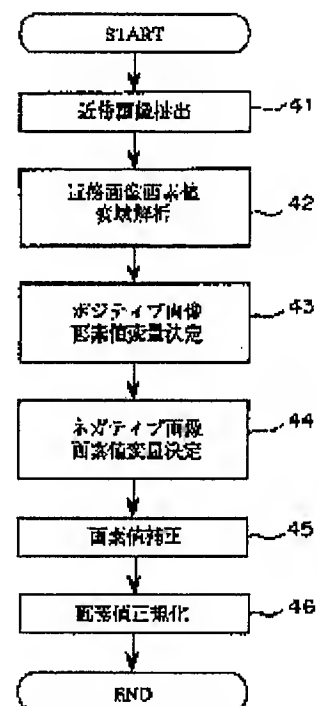
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(54) METHOD AND DEVICE FOR IMPROVING PICTURE QUALITY

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To correct the nonlinear response characteristics of an imaging device to the brightness of inputted light at the time of inputting picture information, by a device such as an image sensor and a monitoring camera, etc., to improve picture quality without the feeling of incompatibility with human being by emphasizing the contrast of a local dark part and a local bright part which are hard to be viewed for the human being and to adapt to practical use for picture processings.

CONSTITUTION: The distribution of picture element values, that is, a local fluctuation area, is measured near the respective picture elements of pictures, positive pictures for which the picture element value is corrected only for a portion proportional to a lower limit value of the local fluctuation area are obtained and negative pictures for which the picture element value is corrected only for the portion proportional to a lower limit value of the local fluctuation area on the negative pictures are obtained. The near center picture element value is corrected and normalized by the logarithm of the ratio of the corrected picture elements and the contrast and sharpness are improved.



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